

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing Amendments, Claims 4-25 are currently pending in this application.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sheffield, U.S. Patent No. 6,603,966 in view of Cook et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,005,884. Claims 1-3 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 4-7 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, claim 1. Claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Because claim 4 was previously dependent on claim 1 and thus already contained all of the limitations of claim 1, no new limitations have been added by this amendment. Claims 5-7 have been amended to update their dependence from claim 1 to claim 4. The withdrawal of the objection to the claims 4-7 is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 4-7 contain subject matter that would be allowable if properly rewritten, and that claims 8-25 contain allowable subject matter.

Applicants: Shah et al.
Application No.: 10/629,506

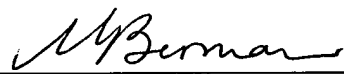
Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 4-25, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Shah et al.

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